

HA-1476

1917

McComas House
522 Rock Spring
Bel Air
private

This house is a good example of Bel Air's way of tasting a new style. It has a gabled Victorian shape, but the decoration - the dormers and front and side porches - are neo-classical. The porch is similar to that of the James Dean house across the street. One may have inspired the other or they may both have taken their inspiration from the McAbee house, 210 E. Broadway.

The house was built by M. Stanley McComas, one of the original McComas brothers, in 1917.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

McComas House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

522 Rockspring

1st

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Harford

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

—DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

—STRUCTURE

—SITE

—OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

—PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

—BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

—IN PROCESS

—BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

—UNOCCUPIED

—WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

—YES: UNRESTRICTED

—NO

PRESENT USE

—AGRICULTURE

—MUSEUM

—COMMERCIAL

—PARK

—EDUCATIONAL

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

—ENTERTAINMENT

—RELIGIOUS

—GOVERNMENT

—SCIENTIFIC

—INDUSTRIAL

—TRANSPORTATION

—MILITARY

—OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Danny R. Jenkins

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

522 Rockspring

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21014

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #: 1086

Folio #: 802

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

NA-75

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT ☐ DETERIORATED
☐ GOOD ☐ RUINS
☒ FAIR ☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This two and a half story, three bay house is at 522 Rock Spring Avenue in the Town of Bel Air, Harford County, Maryland. It is shiplap sided and L-shaped. The gable roof crosses so as to have a gable with a cornice return on each elevation. The front (east) elevation has a slightly projecting south bay with one window in the gable and a pair of windows in the second story. This bay occupies half of the front. The other half is divided into two bays with a hip-roofed, slate sided dormer in the middle of the roof slope. The entrance is on the north side of the projecting bay (first story). Across the front is a neo-classical porch with a hip-roof and pedimented projecting center bay. The roof is carried on slender doric columns connected by a balustrade. A single story addition has been added to the south elevation.

The north elevation of the main block is two bays wide with a rectangular single story bay window in the first story. The north elevation of the back building has two gable-roofed dormers in the roof slope. A side porch, hip-roofed on doric columns and with a side balustrade occupies the middle of three bays.

All the windows are 1/1.

The house has a more or less conventional Victorian shape with neo-classical detailing.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

NA 776

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES	1917	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This frame house is a combination of late Victorian shape and neo-classical details showing the way that Bel Air's citizens tried out the detail of a new style before committing themselves wholeheartedly. The next step would be the tall box with a dormer at each of the cardinal points and with neo-classical porches.

This house was built in 1917 by Stanley McComas, a partner in McComas Brothers Lumber and Building Supplies. He bought this lot and the house and lot next door (#516) from his brother Emory McComas (155/33). He lived in #516 while building this house. McComas died in 1937; in 1938 his widow Sarah McComas bought this house from the estate (253/194). In 1944 she sold it to William McComas, their son (284/108). This year (1979) his widow, now Leeanna Kelly, sold it to the present owner, Danny R. Jenkins for \$70,000 (1086/802).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This property occupies parcel #164 in the Town of Bel Air.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

M. Larew, Architectural Historian12 December 1979

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Town of Bel Air838-8700

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

39 Hickory Avenue

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Bel AirMaryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

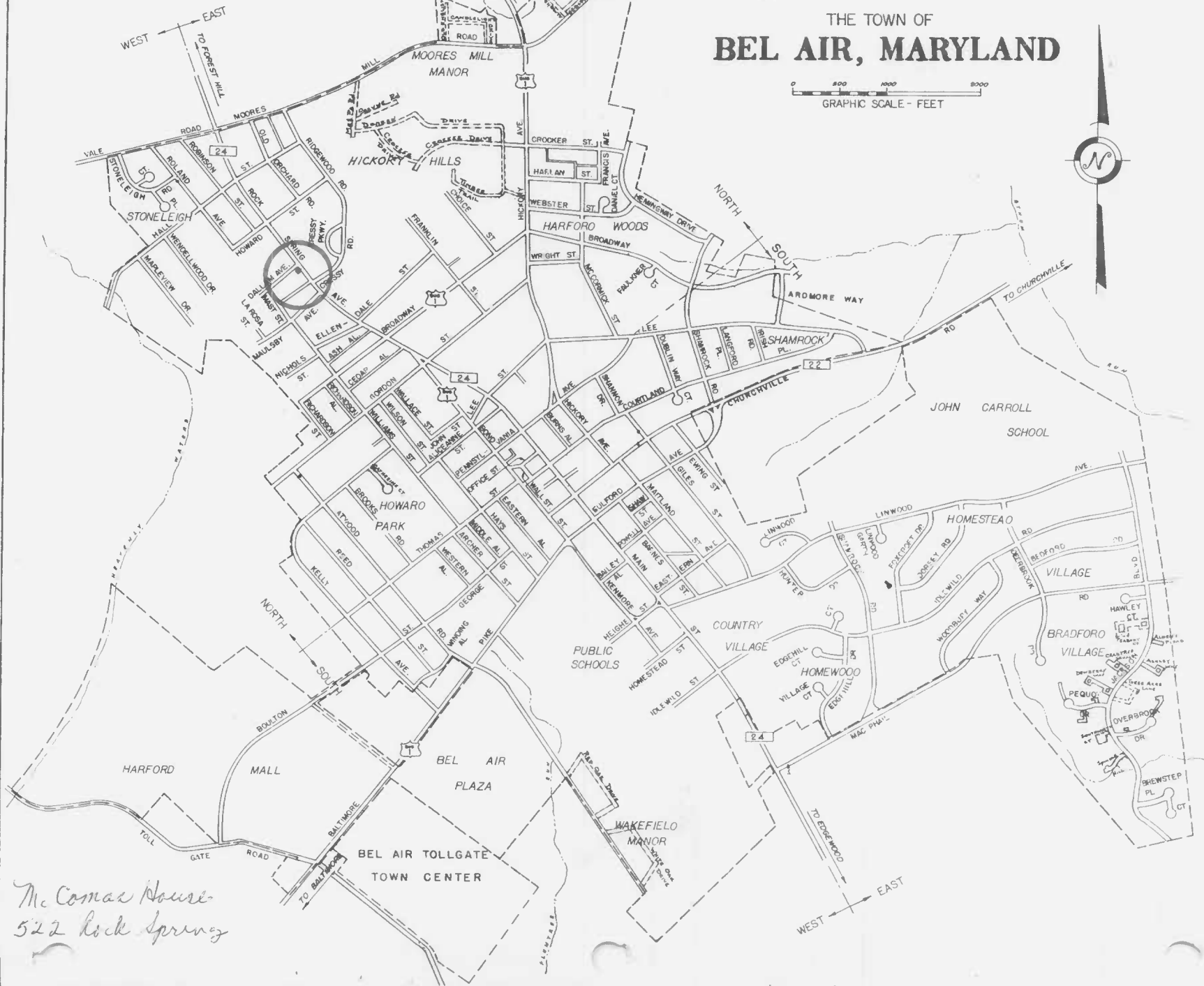
RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

TITLE: 522 Rock Spring

1086/802	16 February 1979 Leeanne K. Kelly, formerly Leeanna McComas to Danny R. Jenkins & Peggy \$70,000
339/343	16 February 1950 Janet E. Pyle to William A. McComas & Leeanna
339/341	16 February 1950 William A. McComas & Leeanna to Janet E. Pyle
284/108	19 May 1944 Sarah E. McComas, widow to William A. McComas
253/194	20 September 1938 M. Stanley McComas, et al to Sarah E. McComas, widow of M. Stanley McComas, Sr. 3 parcels this is #3
155/33	18 December 1916 Emory A. McComas to M. Stanley McComas
145/226	2 June 1914 Hanna E. McComas to Emory A. McComas

THE TOWN OF BEL AIR, MARYLAND

0 500 1000 2000
GRAPHIC SCALE - FEET



HA-1476

McComas House
522 Rock Spring



1+A-1476

The Comae House, 522 Rock Spring, Bel Air
S + e elev

M. Larnet, 1979



HA-1476 Mc Comas House, 522 Rock Spring, Bel Air
H elev
M. Loret, 1979